Paha language

Paha or **Baha** (autonym: [pāhā]) is a Kra language spoken in northern Guangnan County, Wenshan Prefecture, Yunnan. The two villages are located near the border with Longlin County, Guangxi. Paha is often considered to be part of the Buyang dialect cluster and is the most divergent form. Although listed in Ethnologue as Baha Buyang (ISO 639-3: yha (http://www.ethnologue.com/show _language.asp?code=yha)), Thai linguist Weera Ostapirat considers Paha to be a separate language.[3]

Paha	
Region	China
Native speakers	600 (2007)[1]
Language family	Kra–Dai
	▪ Kra
	▪ **Paha**
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	yha
Glottolog	baha1256 (htt p://glottolog.o rg/resource/lan guoid/id/baha12 56)[2]

Contents

Demographics

Within Guangnan County (广南县), Yunnan, the Paha language is spoken in the two villages of Yangliancun (央连村)[4] (from Zhuang *jaaŋˊ lɛŋ˅* "lonely Buyang [village]") in Dixu Township (底圩乡) and Anshecun (安舍村)[5] in Bada Township 八达乡. While Yanglian has around 500 Paha speakers, Anshe only has about 100 speakers left. Paha speakers are shifting rapidly to Zhuang and Southwestern Mandarin, particularly in Anshe village. Many Buyang men in Yanglian village are also married to Zhuang women.[6]

Phonology

Consonants

Paha Buyang has the following consonants.[7]

		Labial			Coronal		Postalveolar		Velar		Uvular		Glottal
		plain	**pal.**	**bilab.**	**plain**	**bilab.**	**plain**	**bilab.**	**plain**	**bilab.**	**plain**	**bilab.**	
Nasal	voiceless aspirated	m̥ʰ			n̥ʰ		ɲ̊ʰ		ŋ̊ʰ				
	voiced	m	mʲ	mᵝ	n		ɲ		ŋ	ŋᵝ			
Plosive	plain voiceless	p	pʲ	pᵝ	t	tᵝ	tʃ	tʃᵝ	k	kᵝ	q	qᵝ	ʔ
	voiceless aspirated	pʰ	pʲʰ	pᵝʰ	tʰ		tʃʰ		kʰ	kᵝʰ	qʰ		
	plain voiced	b	bʲ	bᵝ	d				g	gᵝ			
	voiced aspirated	bʰ	bʲʰ		dʰ				gʰ				
Fricative	voiceless	f		ɸ β	θ	θᵝ	ʃ	ʃᵝ			χ		h
	voiced				ð	ðᵝ			ɣ				
Approximant	voiceless						ȷ̊						
	voiced						j	ɥ					
Laterals	voiceless				ɬ								
	voiced				l								

Vowels

Paha Buyang has the following vowels.[7]

	front	central	back unrounded	back rounded
High	i		ɯ	u
Hi-Mid	e	ə		o
Lo-Mid	ɛ			ɔ
Low		a		

The three high vowels and the low vowel can be long.

Tones

Grammar

Unlike the Buyang dialects of Langjia, Ecun, and Yalang, Paha negatives (such as pi45) precede the verb, whereas the Buyang dialects always place negatives at the end of a sentence. This phenomenon in Paha is probably due to Chinese influence.[8]

References

1. Paha (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/yha/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Baha Buyang" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/baha1256). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

3. Ostapirat, Weera. 2000. 'Proto-Kra (http://sealang.net/sala/archives/pdf8/weera2000proto.pdf)', LTBA 23.1:1-251
4. http://www.ynszxc.gov.cn/villagePage/vIndex.aspx?departmentid=213502
5. http://www.ynszxc.gov.cn/villagePage/vIndex.aspx?departmentid=266267
6. Li Jinfang and Luo Yongxian. *The Buyang language of South China: grammatical notes, glossary, texts and translations*. Pacific Linguistics Publishers, Australian National University, 2010.
7. Li, J., & Luo, Y. (2006). *Notes on Paha Buyang.* Linguistics of the Tibeto-Burman Area, Vol. 29, No. 1, p. 1-40.
8. 李锦芳/Li, Jinfang and 周国炎/Guoyan Zhou. 仡央语言探索/Geyang yu yan tan suo. Beijing, China: 中央民族大学出版社/Zhong yang min zu da xue chu ban she, 1999.

External links

- ABVD: Paha word list (https://web.archive.org/web/20160518113336/http://language.psy.auckland.ac.nz/austronesian/language.php?id=694)